

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01

CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 /091 W

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R 271620Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6811

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ASUNCION 0868

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, PFOR, PA

SUBJ: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: REQUEST FOR MULTILATERAL INFORMATION
ON PARAGUAY

REF: STATE 037591

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO THE
QUESTIONS RAISED IN PARA-
GRAPH 7, REF TEL, IN SAME ORDER.

2. (A) MULTILATERAL INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES. A SMALL,
UNDERDEVELOPED, GEOGRAPHICALLY ISOLATED STATE, PARAGUAY DOES NOT
TAKE A VERY ACTIVE PART IN WORLD AFFAIRS AND IS RELATIVELY UNINTERES
TED

IN AND UNINFORMED ABOUT THE INCREASINGLY NUMEROUS AND COMPLEX
MULTILATERAL ISSUES. WE ARE NOT AWARE THAT PARAGUAY HAS
CONSCIOUSLY FORMULATED ANY SET OF INTERESTS AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES
FOR 1976 IN THIS AREA, ALTHOUGH EMBASSY IS INFORMED THAT GOP
WILL HAVE A CANDIDATE FOR A UNESCO POST IN PARIS AND PROBABLY
SEVERAL OTHER CANDIDATES FOR POSITIONS IN INTERNATIONAL BODIES.

AS IN THE PAST, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES GOP ACTIONS THIS YEAR
IN MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS WILL BE GOVERNED BY THE

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FOLLOWING GENERAL PRINCIPLES:

- 1) STRONG AND INFLEXIBLE ANTI-COMMUNIST POSITION
- 2) DISTASTE FOR THIRD WORLD MOVEMENT IN GENERAL AND LEFTIST GOVERNMENTS IN PARTICULAR.
- 3) DESIRE TO BE IDENTIFIED WITH AND TO SUPPORT WHAT PARAGUAY CONSIDERS LIKE-MINDED REGIMES, I.E., TAIWAN, SOUTH KOREA, SOUTH AFRICA.
- 4) IN REGIONAL AFFAIRS, THE GOP SEEKS TO MINIMIZE CONFRONTATIONS WITH THE US WHILE WILLING TO MAINTAIN REGIONAL SOLIDARITY ON ISSUES WHERE THERE IS CONSENSUS, SUCH AS PANAMA CONAL.
- 5) ON MIDDLE EAST QUESTIONS, THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE PAST SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL IS WAVERING, BUT UNTIL THIS IS VERIFIED, WE CONSIDER GOP REMAINS BASICALLY SYMPATHETIC TO ISRAEL BUT MIGHT IN CERTAIN CASES REFRAIN FROM OPEN SUPPORT FOR FEAR OF APPEARING TOO ISOLATED OR JEOPARDIZING HOPED-FOR INVESTMENTS FROM OIL-RICH STATES.
- 6) ALTHOUGH IT IS ONE OF THE POOREST COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA, PARAGUAY FOR IDEOLOGICAL REASONS AND A GENERAL LACK OF AWARENESS HAS NOT SHOWN MUCH INTEREST IN JOINING FORCES WITH THE REST OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD IN ETMPORT OF A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER OVSTOTHERWISE CONFRONTING THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS. ITS EFFORTS HAVE BEEN PRIMARILY LIMITED TO SEEKING AID AE PRIVATE INVESTMENT FOR ITSELF. TO DJQTE, EMBASSY HS IDENTIFIED ONLY ONE SPECIFIC ECONOMIC OBJECTIVE FOR 1976: ACCESSION TO GATT.
- 7) IN LOS NEGOTIATIONS, PARAGUAY WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR MAXIMUM BENEFITS FOR LANDLOCKED AND GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED STATES INCLUDING GUARANTEED ACCESS TO SEA AND OPTIMUM RIGHT TO EXPLOIT 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE.

3(B) INFLUENCE OF OTHER COUNTRIES. PARAGUAY'S MULTILATERAL POLICY MAKING IS AFFECTED MOE BY THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES OUTLINED ABOVE THAN BY THE INFLUENCE OF OTHER STATES OR GROUPS OF STATES.

- 1) THE US IS PROBABLY THE MOST ACTIVE IN TRYING TO INFLUENCE THE GOP POSITION IN MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS. SINCE PARAGUAY'S GENERAL PRINCIPLES

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- OFTEN BRING THE
GOP IN LINE WITH THE US POSITION
ON KEY ISSUES, THE RESULT HAS BEEN FAVORABLE,
ALTHOUGH PROBABLY MORE BECAUSE OF PARAGUAY'S
OUTLOOK THAN US INFLUENCE.
- 2) PARAGUAY HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY LINKED TO BRAZIL ECONOMICALLY. AS YET, BRAZILIANS HAVE REFRAINED FROM TRYING TO INFLUENCE PARAGUAY

ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES, BUT IN THE FUTURE BRAZIL
PROBABLY WILL HAVE THE LEVERAGE TO DO THIS
EFFECTIVELY.

3) WHEN PARAGUAY DOES NOT HAVE ANY PARTICULAR
INTEREST IN ANY
ECONOMIC QUESTION AT INTERNATIONAL
MEETINGS, IT QUITE OFTEN WILL FOLLOW THE LEAD OF
OTHER LESS-DEVELOPED LATIN AMERICAN STATES,
BUT WITHOUT ENTHUSIASM.

4) PARAGUAY ALMOST NEVER ATTEMPTS TO INFLUENCE
OTHER STATES.
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ASUNCION 0868

4.(C) COMMUNICATION BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND
DELEGATIONS. IN GENERAL, COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE FOREIGN
MINISTRY AND DELEGATIONS IN THE FIELD LEAVES MUCH TO BE DESIRED.
THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IS UNDERSTAFFED, DISORGANIZED AND
LACKING IN COMPETENCE. PARAGUAYAN DELEGATIONS TO INTERNATIONAL
BODIES SUFFER FROM THE SAME SHORTCOMINGS, AND IN ADDITION
ARE OFTEN LAZY AND UNINTERESTED. INSTRUCTIONS TO THE
FIELD AND REPORTING BACK HOME ARE ON A HIT-OR-MISS BASIS.
ANY LACK OF EFFECTIVE CONTROL OVER DELEGATES IS PRIMARILY
THE RESULT OF FAILURE OF COMMUNICATIONS RATHER THAN WILLFUL
INDEPENDENT ACTION. HN SEVERAL OCCASIONS, HOWEVER, WHEN WE

HAVE MADE STRONG REPRESENTATIONS ON KEY ISSUES, THE GOP HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT, IF PRESSED, IT CAN ISSUE TIMELY INSTRUCTIONS WHICH DELEGATES CARRY OUT PROMPTLY. IN VIEW OF THE CHAOTIC CONDITIONS EXISTING, IT IS ADVISABLE ALWAYS TO MAKE PARALLEL DEMARCHES AT FOREIGN MINISTRY AND AT THE UN.

5.(D) INDEPENDENT POWER OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES. PARAGUAY'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES TO INTERNATIONAL BODIES HAVE NO INDEPENDENT POLITICAL POWER.

6.(E) BILATERAL INFLUENCES. PARAGUAY IS NORMALLY RECEPTIVE TO US REPRESENTATIONS ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES, BUT CONFIDENTIAL

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LARGELY, AS POINTED OUT UNDER SECTION B ABOVE, BECAUSE OUR POSITION IS OFTEN COMPATIBLE WITH THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THEIR MULTILATERAL POLICY. BEYOND THAT, THE US HAS SOME LEVERAGE WITH THE GOP AS A RESULT OF LONG-STANDING PROGRAMS OF U.S. MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PARAGUAY AND OUR PRESTIGE, NOW SOMEWHAT TARNISHED IN PARAGUAYAN EYES, AS LEADER OF THE NON-COMMUNIST WORLD. PARAGUAY HAS NO DIFFICULTY IN UNDERSTANDING THE CONCEPT THAT GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT INTERACTION ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES IS PART OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. THE EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE, PARAGUAY HAS NEVER SOLICITED OUR SUPPORT ON A SUBSTANTIVE MULTILATERAL ISSUE, ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE REPEATEDLY APPROACHED US SEEKING SUPPORT FOR VARIOUS PARAGUAYAN CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANISMS.

7. IN CONCLUSION DEPARTMENT SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT DURING THE 30TH UNGA PARAGUAY NEVER VOTED AGAINST THE US ON ANY OF THE TWELVE KEY ISSUES (USUN 0690). WHENEVER THEY DID NOT VOTE FOR US THEY EITHER ABSTAINED OR WERE ABSENT, MANY TIMES JUST TO AVOID ANY CONFRONTATION WITH U.S.

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